

Application No. 09/976,537
Amendment dated January 8, 2004
Reply to Office Action of September 8, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A nonwoven fabric, comprising a single homogeneous fibrous batt formed of fibers selected from the group consisting of: (1) cotton fibers; and (2) a blend of cotton fibers and synthetic fibers, whereupon the single fibrous batt is entangled by the application of hydraulic energy to opposite expansive surfaces of said fibrous batt to form a nonwoven fabric, said nonwoven fabric having highly entangled, opposite outer surface regions and a lightly entangled inner core region positioned between said highly entangled outer surface regions formed by application of hydraulic energy in the range of about 0.027 to 0.046 hp-hr/lb.

Claim 2 (canceled):

Claim 3 (canceled):

Claim 4 (currently amended): A nonwoven fabric as in claim 3 1, wherein the synthetic staple fibers are selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, polyolefins, polyamides, polyesters and the combinations thereof.

Claim 5 (canceled).

Claim 6 (original): A nonwoven fabric as in claim 1, wherein the fabric is imaged by the application of hydraulic energy upon a three-dimensional image transfer device having a movable imaging surface.

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Claim 7 (original): A nonwoven fabric as in claim 1, wherein the fabric further comprises one or more physical performance enhancing chemistries.

Claim 8 (withdrawn).

Claim 9 (withdrawn).

Claim 10 (withdrawn).

Claim 11 (currently amended): A cast padding material, comprising a single homogeneous fibrous batt formed of fibers selected from the group consisting of: (1) cotton fibers; and (2) a blend of cotton fibers and synthetic fibers, whereupon the single fibrous batt is entangled by the application of hydraulic energy to opposite expansive surfaces thereof to form a cast padding material, said cast padding material having highly entangled, opposite outer surface regions and a lightly entangled inner core region positioned between said highly entangled outer surface regions formed by application of hydraulic energy in the range of about 0.027 to 0.046 hp-hr/lb.